

## Andrew Jackson to Francis Preston Blair, August 12, 1841, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

class=MsoNormal>TO FRANCIS P. BLAIR.

Hermitage, August 12, 1841.

My dear sir, I have just received yours of the 2nd instant, acknowledging mine etc. etc. I wrote my friend Doctor Linn the day I wrote you. Whilst I was confined and unable to write the debt of gratitude I owed him remaining by me, unexpressed to him, lay heavy on my mind, and the first moment that I could wield the pen, feeble as I was, I wrote him which I hope he has received—please, with my kind regards, enquire if he received it—it was of the same date with yours, or perhaps the day previous. As long as my pulse beats, the gratitude I owe Doctor Linn will warm my bosom, for his disinterested friendship in my defence.

I fear Govr. Polk is beaten, intirely by the apathy of the Democracy—he fought the battle unaided I may say, and he fought it well and is entitled to the thanks of the democracy. It is believed that we have a small majority in the general assembly, but as yet not positively ascertained—if we have I hope the democracy will with a united voice send him to the senate—he deserves this mark of the confidence of the Republicans. I am happy to hear that it is believed in Washington, as I do believe, that Tyler will veto the Bank bill and the distribution Land bill. If principle does not induce him, policy will.

I am happy to learn that Mr. Calhoun is got right; god send that he may continue so. If he looks at the Tarriff bill prepared by McLain under my view he will find there the principle of a protecting tariff repudiated, and if he remembers Clays speech excusing himself for

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the 0143 119 compromise, he will find that there Clay proclaimed that it was to preserve the principle of protection, which I intended to destroy in the bill before the House of Representatives, and the senates bill (the compromise act) was taken up by Letcher in the House and moved as an amendment to the H. of R. bill. If Mr. Calhoun remains firm, I am sure I will not throw the least shade over him, to err is human, to forgive divine . . . .